



**State of Connecticut  
Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection  
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control**

1. CFA June School 2017 – Starts Monday June 5<sup>th</sup>
2. June School Class Location Change – **Forcible Entry**
3. CT Fire Academy Summer Recruit Orientation
4. Eversource Live-Line Demonstration – During June Fire school
5. **NEW Video Series: Improving EMS Worker Safety Through Ambulance Design and Testing**
6. NIOSH Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program Reports
7. Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week8
8. Vernon PD Hosting Fundraiser for Special Olympics

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1. CFA June School 2017 – Starts Monday June 5<sup>th</sup>

*Please note - on page 16 the write up for the Q TtT is incorrect. Any questions please email [Ken.hanks@ct.gov](mailto:Ken.hanks@ct.gov)*

**It's All About the Brain** on June 8<sup>th</sup> has been **CANCELLED**

Registration is now open for June School 2017 sponsored by the Connecticut Fire Academy. The annual event will run from June 5<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>. Classes, unless otherwise noted, will be held on the CFA campus at 34 Perimeter Road in Windsor Locks. **Completed registrations are due now so don't delay.**

Applications can be mailed and/or faxed to the following number, 860-654-1889. A separate Flashover permission form is required to be submitted for those registering for the Flashover Survival class. Some classes require full turnout gear and SCBA or other equipment, please read the course descriptions carefully. First time applicants for the Forcible Entry class will receive preference this year. If you have never attended this course, please sign up early!

Any questions regarding the classes or registration please contact Program Manager Jason Decremer at 860-264-9242 or Program Manager Eric Munsell at 860-264-9260.

Brochure <http://www.ct.gov/cfpc/cwp/view.asp?Q=592370&A=833>

**PLEASE USE THIS APPLICATION** [http://www.ct.gov/cfpc/lib/cfpc/june\\_one\\_2017.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/cfpc/lib/cfpc/june_one_2017.pdf)

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## 2. June School Class Location Change – **Forcible Entry**

Those who have registered for the Forcible Entry Class # 17433 with Chief Robert “Rex” Morris Senior, the class location has changed.

You **WILL NOT** be meeting at the New Haven Fire School.

### **New Location:**

**Class will be held at the Stamford Government Center:  
888 Washington Boulevard  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Stamford, CT. 06901-2902**

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## 3. CT Fire Academy Summer Recruit Orientation

**Everyone currently on a hiring list is strongly encouraged to take this FREE class in order to best prepare for the upcoming Connecticut Fire Academy Recruit Classes.**

The Recruit Firefighter Program is a 14 week resident course that focuses on developing the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed for the newly hired career firefighter, or for the volunteer firefighter, to perform entry-level tasks under direct supervision. The Academy is offering three orientation sessions to anyone interested in learning about the Recruit Program and its comprehensive classroom instruction and training in firefighting techniques and equipment use. The orientation offers insights into what to expect, and how best to prepare for this intensive training opportunity. **100% of those students who have attended past Orientations have confirmed its tremendous value.**

<http://www.ct.gov/cfpc/cwp/view.asp?a=832&q=582466&cfpcNav=>

[http://www.ct.gov/cfpc/lib/cfpc/CFA2017\\_Application.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/cfpc/lib/cfpc/CFA2017_Application.pdf)

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## 4. Eversource Live-Line Demonstration – During June Fire school

On Thursday June 8<sup>th</sup> during June Fire School, Eversource will be providing 2, no-cost live-line demonstrations, at 12:00pm and 12:30pm. These will give first responders and others a graphic demonstration of the dangers associated with fallen power lines and other electricity-related hazards. Most notably perhaps, demonstrators showed what happens when a hot dog comes into contact with over 7,000 volts.



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## 5. **NEW Video Series: Improving EMS Worker Safety Through Ambulance Design and Testing**

NIOSH partnered with Department of Homeland Security’s Science and Technology Directorate as well as other federal agencies and the ambulance industry to develop a [seven-part video series](#) that covers new crash test methods. The series highlights changes impacting ambulance design, testing, and manufacture. These changes support efficient patient care and improve safety in the ambulance patient compartment for emergency medical services workers, first responders, and their patients

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## 6. **NIOSH Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program Reports**

[Trainee Suffers Heart Attack during Fire Fighter Training and Dies—Michigan](#) A trainee was participating in a fire department’s search and rescue training. After about 1.5 hours of practical training, the trainee took a break. He became dizzy, lightheaded, and unresponsive. Resuscitation efforts were unsuccessful, and the trainee was pronounced dead. For the full report

visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201604.html>

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## 7. **Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week**

### [Freon Leak Mistaken for Smoke](#)

#### **Summary**

A routine high-rise fire alarm turned into a Freon leak, sending four to the hospital.

#### **Event Description**

On the morning of a holiday, Engine 1 received a dispatch for a fire alarm at an 18-story high-rise. At the same time, Engine 2 came in service and took the call. Most of Station 1 personnel are aware of this building and treat it, and every fire alarm, as the real thing until proven otherwise.

Upon arriving at the building, Engine 2 could hear the alarm sounding and met with a security guard in the lobby, who stated that the basement and third floor were showing smoke indications on the alarm panel.

Engine 2 proceeded down to the basement, but access to the large mechanical area was stopped due to a locked door. A couple of large windows next to the locked door showed a smoky haze in the mechanical area; the Engine 2 captain ordered the crew back upstairs and had dispatch upgrade the call to a greater alarm.

The Engine 2 crew donned their equipment and SCBAs, gathered their high-rise equipment and assumed command. Engine 1 arrived on scene and formed an attack team with Engine 2. Battalion 1 arrived and met face-to-face with command and discussed with the attack team proceeding to the basement and getting another company to check the third floor.

All indications for the source of smoke were pointing towards a malfunctioning or overheated piece of mechanical equipment, which the attack team should have quickly found and secured.

Members of Engine 1 had all their PPE on, including SCBA, but didn't go on air before entering the basement. The haze in the basement thought to be smoke turned out to be a leak of Freon (R22) from one of two large A/C units. Engine 1 was exposed to the Freon at the base of the stairs leading to the mechanical room. They immediately began feeling the effects (asphyxia), which produced shortness of breath, fatigue and ultimately confusion. One firefighter was so fatigued he stated that he was telling himself that he just needed to lie down for a minute.

The crew quickly realized they weren't dealing with ordinary smoke and they proceeded to don their facepieces. The exposure began to affect some simple motor skills and donning the facepiece proved to be a challenge.

Engine 2, who was on their air, announced on the radio that the source could be a "possible Freon leak." Within one minute of that transmission, the Ladder 1 captain witnessed a member of Engine 1 stumbling to the top of the stairs and then walking into a large glass window. The captain made a "firefighter down" call over the radio to command.

Command deployed Engine 4 and Medic 1 to the lobby to help the downed firefighter, thinking at the time only a single member was having a medical issue. Soon, other members of Engine 1 followed up the stairs and into the lobby and were also escorted outside to the medical area.

It was quickly determined that our members were exposed to Freon and all members exited the basement. Four of our personnel were affected and transported for further evaluation. One member of engine 2, who was doing forcible entry work on air in the basement, was apparently exposed through a loose facepiece seal.

View the Report: [Freon Leak Mistaken for Smoke](#)

### Take-Aways

The colorless gas known as R-22 Freon is commonly used as a propellant and refrigerant. R-22 can cause:

- irregular heartbeat and heart thumping
- strange sensation in the chest
- red and painful eyes
- feeling of faintness
- weakness

- nervous-system abnormalities
- lightheadedness and dizziness
- incoordination
- confusion
- drowsiness and anesthetic effects
- apprehension
- unconsciousness

In the liquid state R-22, contact with skin can cause frostbite and cold burns. Excess exposure can cause suffocation and death from lack of oxygen.

The gas is combustible under certain conditions and can decompose, producing toxic and corrosive gasses, including hydrogen chloride, phosgene, hydrogen fluoride and carbonyl fluoride.

The gas is not flammable at ambient temperatures and atmospheric pressure. R22 is not believed to be carcinogenic.

### Discussion

- What are our SOGs when dispatched to a high-rise fire alarm?
- Do our current communications operate effectively when working below grade?
- Should we carry air-monitors in on fire alarms for monitoring capabilities?
- Reinforce the importance of PPE and SCBA usage on all fire alarms.

### Leading Practices

Firefighting is a visually stimulating profession that can bite us if we don't have our guard up at all times. It's easy to become complacent and apathetic on what is called a routine call. The reality is that no one call is routine.

With the advancements in technology and the use of industrial chemicals, the art of firefighting has never been more dangerous than it is today. Have the courageous self-leadership to don your PPE and SCBA on any call where the threat of toxic atmospheres exists.

### Related Near Miss Reports

- [CO2 Exposure Nearly Results in Medical](#)
- [Two Crew Members Exposed to Zinc Fumes](#)
- [Wrong Valve Closed on Hazmat Incident](#)

### Additional Resources

- [FirefighterCloseCalls.com Article: 3 Firefighters and 1 Worker transported from Hazmat scene. Firefighters mistake chemical cloud for smoke](#)
- [Firehouse.com Article: HazMat Team Spotlight: Anchorage Fire Department](#)
- [Consumer Reports: EPA Issues Warning on Flammable A/C Refrigerant](#)
- [FireEngineering.com Article: Hazmat Survival Tips: 10 Common Errors Committed During Incidents](#)

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## **8. Vernon PD Hosting Fundraiser for Special Olympics**

The Vernon Police Department will be hosting a fundraiser for Special Olympics on June 16, 2017.

The event is a 2-hour comedy show and will be held at the Rockville Elks Lodge (North Park Street) in the Carriage House. The doors open at 7:00 P.M. with an 8:00 P.M. start time for the show. Advanced purchase of the tickets is preferred, as there are a limited number of tickets available, and tickets at the door can't be guaranteed.

Tickets are \$25.00 per person for the event. Please consider coming out to help raise funds for Special Olympics of CT. Law Enforcement has been the #1 sponsor and supporter of Special Olympics worldwide and we here at the Vernon Police Department are trying to do our part in raising funds.

If you organize a table of 8, you will be provided a reserved table.

Invite Family, Neighbors, Friends....make it a date night!!

Come on out for a night of laughs to help a great cause!!!

For tickets, please respond via email to Charles Hicking ([chicking@vernon-ct.gov](mailto:chicking@vernon-ct.gov))

Checks would be made out to the "Vernon Police Association".

**PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL**

# CONNECTICUT FIRE ACADEMY

## Recruit Firefighter Program

### **2017 ORIENTATION**

Everyone currently on a hiring list is strongly encouraged to take this FREE class in order to best prepare for the upcoming Connecticut Fire Academy Recruit Classes.

The Connecticut Fire Academy Recruit Firefighter Program is a 14 week resident course that focuses on developing the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed for the newly hired career firefighter, or for the volunteer firefighter to perform entry-level tasks under direct supervision. The Academy is offering two orientation sessions to anyone interested in learning about the Recruit Program and its comprehensive classroom instruction and training in firefighting techniques and equipment use.

The Orientation to the Recruit Firefighter Program offers insights into what to expect, and how to prepare for this intensive training opportunity.

#### **The 2017 Orientation to the Recruit Firefighter Program dates:**

June 6, 2017	6pm to 8pm	Held at CFA	Course Number: 17353
June 8, 2017	6pm to 8pm	Held at New Haven Regional F.S.	Course Number: 17354
June 14, 2017	10am to 12pm	Held at CFA	Course Number: 17355
December 12, 2017	6pm to 8pm	Held at CFA	Course Number: 17353
December 13, 2017	10am to 12pm	Held at CFA	Course Number: 17353
December 14, 2017	6pm to 8pm	Held at New Haven Regional F.S.	Course Number: 17354

Connecticut Fire Academy  
34 Perimeter Road, Windsor Locks, Connecticut 06096

New Haven Regional Fire School  
230 Ella Grasso Boulevard, New Haven, CT 06519

Registration Required: Use the 2017 CFA Student Application – Write “No Fee”



#### **The CFA Recruit Firefighter Program**

Class 60 will be held from August 28, to December 8, 2017.

Class 61 will be held from February 13 to May 23, 2018

For any questions, please contact: [cfpcrecruit@ct.gov](mailto:cfpcrecruit@ct.gov) or 860-264-9243  
See our Recruit Firefighter Program web page for more information; <http://www.ct.gov/cfpc>